

What is claimed is

1. A network system for radiographing radiation images, comprising:

a plurality of radiation-image reading apparatus to read said radiation images stored in radiation-image storing sheets so as to generate image data sets each of which corresponds to each of said radiation images; and

a plurality of controllers to register discrimination information sets each of which corresponds to each of said radiation-image storing sheets;

wherein said plurality of radiation-image reading apparatus and said plurality of controllers are coupled each other to form said network system, and each of said controllers can display a radiation image for confirmation, when it receives an image data set corresponding to said radiation image, said radiation image being one of said radiation images and said image data set being one of said image data sets; and

wherein a radiation-image reading apparatus reads a discrimination information set recorded on a radiation-image storing sheet loaded into said radiation-image reading apparatus, in order to specify a controller, which registered

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said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet, on the basis of said discrimination information set, so as to transmit said image data set, read from said radiation-image storing sheet, to said controller specified by said radiation-image reading apparatus, and said radiation-image reading apparatus, said discrimination information set, said radiation-image storing sheet and said controller are one of said plurality of radiation-image reading apparatus, one of said discrimination information sets, one of said radiation-image storing sheets and one of said plurality of controllers, respectively.

2. The network system of claim 1,

wherein said radiation-image storing sheet can be loaded into any one of said plurality of radiation-image reading apparatus, even if any one of said plurality of controllers registers said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet.

3. The network system of claim 1,

wherein, when said image data set read from said radiation-image storing sheet cannot be transmitted to said controller specified by said radiation-image reading

apparatus, said image data set is transmitted to another controller, being one of said plurality of controllers.

4. The network system of claim 1,

wherein each of said controllers comprises an acquiring section to acquire identification data of an operator who controls a controller concerned, and registers said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet in conjunction with said identification data of said operator; and

wherein, when said image data set read from said radiation-image storing sheet cannot be transmitted to said controller specified by said radiation-image reading apparatus, said image data set is transmitted to another controller in which said acquiring section acquires said identification data of said operator coinciding with that in respect to said image data set.

5. The network system of claim 1,

wherein each of said controllers registers said discrimination information sets of said radiation-image storing sheets in respect to a subject in conjunction with subject's identification data, and displays a predetermined

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message, when it receives said image data sets read from all of said radiation-image storing sheets in respect to said subject.

6. The network system of claim 1,

wherein each of said controllers can change an order of said image data sets read from said radiation-image storing sheets in respect to a subject when outputting said image data sets.

7. The network system of claim 1, further comprising:

a database section to store a database of recording files, each of which includes said discrimination information set registered by said controller and controller-discrimination information set corresponding to said controller;

wherein said database section retrieves said discrimination information set from any one of said plurality of radiation-image reading apparatus and returns a recording file concerned, being one of said recording files, and then, said radiation-image reading apparatus specifies a controller, which registered said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet, on the basis of

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said discrimination information set included in said recording file, so as to transmit said image data set, read from said radiation-image storing sheet, to said controller specified by said radiation-image reading apparatus.

8. The network system of claim 2, further comprising:

a database section to store a database of recording files, each of which includes said discrimination information set registered by said controller and controller-discrimination information set corresponding to said controller;

wherein said database section retrieves said discrimination information set from any one of said plurality of radiation-image reading apparatus and returns a recording file concerned, being one of said recording files, and then, said radiation-image reading apparatus specifies a controller, which registered said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet, on the basis of said discrimination information set included in said recording file, so as to transmit said image data set, read from said radiation-image storing sheet, to said controller specified by said radiation-image reading apparatus.

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9. The network system of claim 1,

wherein said controller can transmit a recording file, including said discrimination information set registered by said controller and a controller-discrimination information set corresponding to said controller, to all of said plurality of radiation-image reading apparatus, and said radiation-image reading apparatus stores said recording file and transmits said image data set, on the basis of said controller-discrimination information set included in said recording file coinciding with said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet.

10. The network system of claim 1,

wherein said radiation-image reading apparatus retrieves a coincided recording file in respect to all of said plurality of controllers by utilizing said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet, and transmits said image data set read from said radiation-image storing sheet to a controller having said coincided recording file.

11. The network system of claim 1,

wherein each of said controllers also registers a radiographing information set including data, such as a body part of a subject to be radiographed, a radiographing direction, radiographing conditions, etc., in addition to said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet currently utilized for radiographing said subject, and said controller determines a reading condition for reading said radiation-image storing sheet on the basis of said radiographing information set registered by said controller; and

wherein said radiation-image reading apparatus acquires said reading condition on the basis of said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet, and reads a radiation image stored in said radiation-image storing sheet under said reading condition acquired, so as to generate said image data set.

12. The network system of claim 1,

wherein each of said controllers also registers a radiographing information set including data, such as a body part of a subject to be radiographed, a radiographing direction, radiographing conditions, etc., in addition to said discrimination information set of said radiation-image

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storing sheet currently utilized for radiographing said subject; and

wherein said controller applies an image-processing onto said image data set received in conjunction with said discrimination information set of said radiation-image storing sheet on the basis of said radiographing information set, which coincides with said discrimination information set, so as to output an image-processed image data set.

13. The network system of claim 1,

wherein each of said controllers controls an exclusive type radiation-image reading apparatus, and receives an image data set outputted by said exclusive type radiation-image reading apparatus, synchronizing with a radiographing operation performed by said exclusive type radiation-image reading apparatus.

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